(b) if so, what are the names of such entrepreneurs;

(c) whether this project has been cleared; and

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Sinking of Indian Fighter**

1854. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 376 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28.4.93 and state:

(a) what are the causes of the accident;

(b) whether Government have constituted any enquiry to go into the details of the accident; and

(c) the details of the steps taken/likely to be taken by Government to provide financial assistance to the victims?

THE MINSITER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The Government has deputed Senior Nautical Survey or to conduct preliminary inquiry into the sinking of m.v. 'Viswa Mohini' of Shipping Corporation of India. Since the enquiry is still in progress, it is premature to pin-point the causes of the accident.

(c) In consonance with the bipartite agreement between Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) and the respective Unions of Seamen, the quantum of compensation to be paid various from Rs. 5,50,000/- to Rs. 11,09,000/- for officers, Rs. 2,08,413/- to Rs. 5,22,910/ for crew and Rs. 2,75,000/- to Rs. 4,20,000/- for petty officers. In addition, compensation for loss of personal effect is also payable. The precise amount of compensation payable in respect of each person who died and each survivor is being assessed. However, ex-gratia payment amounting to Rs. 20,000 have already been made to the next of the kin of the 12 persons whose bodies had been recovered and 21 persons missing, presumed dead. In so far as the survivors are concerned, ex-gratia payments amounting to US $200 plus Rs. 5,000/- have been made to each of the survivors.

1855 [*Transferred to 13th May* 1993]

**Rash Driving by Redline and other Private Bus Drivers**

1856. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to ensure that the drivers of the privately run Re-line and other buses in Delhi do not drive rashly in competition with other buses on the roads as this endanger road safety; and

(b) if so, the details therof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) As per the conditions of permits issued to these buses they are bound to follow the Rules of the Road Regulations contained in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The Enforcement Staff of the Directorate of Transport and the Traffic

Police of the National Capital Territory of Delhi are over-seeing the observance of these rules by the Redline and other buses plying in Delhi.

The Central Government have also directed the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi that traffic violations should be severely dealt with under relevant provisions of law. As on 26-4-93, 15555 prosecutions have been made against the red line buses.

**Removal of Speed Breakers on National Highways**

1857. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has recently announced that all speed breakers on National Highways will be removed within six months;

(b) if so, whether the work of removal of such speed breakers has begun; and

(c) what is the reason for taking such a long time for removing the speed breakers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir. However, in the last meeting of Transport Development Council held in New Delhi on 22nd January, 1993, it was agreed by all the Transport Ministers of the States that the speed breakers on the National Highways will be removed by December, 1993.

(b) and (c) As a result of the efforts made by the Ministry many State Governments have already initiated action and removed speed breakers. However, speed breakers have still not been removed at a number of locations either due to stiff public resistance or specific needs of local administration. Even for such situations, substitution of speed breakers with suitable alternative measures has been proposed.

**Amount sanctioned for repairs of National Highways in Maharashtra**

1858. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) how many kilometres of National Highways in Maharashtra need repairs;

(b) what is the total amount sanctioned to Maharashtra for National Highway road repairs; and

(c) how many kilometres of distance on which repairs would be possible from this amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Since the work of repairs to National Highways is a continuing activity, it is not possible to indicate the exact length of National Highways requiring repair in any particular State (including Maharashtra) at a given time.

(b) and (c) The State-wise allocation for 1993-94 for maintenance and repairs has not yet been decided. Therefore, it is not possible at present to indicate the length of National Highways that can be repaired.

**Number of vehicles in the country**

1859. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) which city has the largest number of vehicles in the country (automobiles);